

New Highland Principal Plans to Scrap Old System and Start From Scratch

By John J. Jordan
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Incoming Highland High Principal Charles Schackett and reform-minded teachers and parents want to rebuild this Salt Lake City school from its educational foundations.

The plan: Disband outdated modes of teaching that do not work and transform Highland into a school of the 21st century.

"When you talk about restructuring a school, you can either put Band-Aids on existing problems," says Mr. Schackett, "or you can totally gut it and start from scratch."

Mr. Schackett, a 35-year-old husband and father of four, was hired as principal by the Salt Lake City School District earlier this year. He will serve his first school day as principal Aug. 25.

Revamping schools is not new for Mr. Schackett. He worked as an administrator of Provo High for three years, one as principal, and was dedicated to transforming that school, too.

Provo High is one of Utah's showpiece schools as part of the Nine District Consortium, a group of high schools breaking old molds and implementing new methods.

Mr. Schackett seeks to add Highland High to that elite group. The Utah state Board of Education could make a decision at its August meeting.

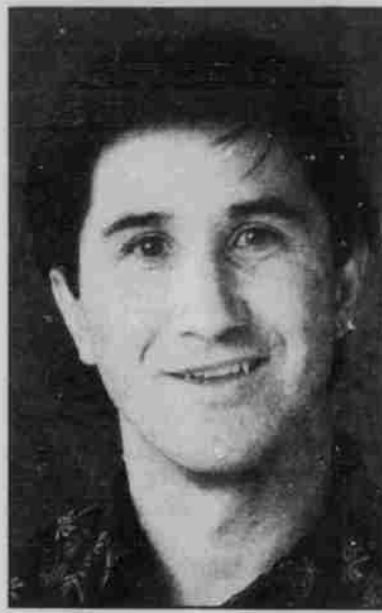
"The prestige and tradition of Highland demand that we help provide leadership," he said.

The process of change is a tedious one, says Mr. Schackett, who is still building a team of teachers and parents who want change. The first year of reform will be dedicated to building a plan that includes all facets of the Highland community. He said community and teacher involvement are essential for a successful restructuring effort.

At Provo High, for instance, Mr. Schackett and teachers developed several advisory committees that included community leaders, parents, school officials and students.

Likely changes in the coming years include:

- Class schedules: "We must look beyond this [idea of] even periods a day for a certain number of minutes," he said. "English, math and science are not separated in our lives and they shouldn't be in school." He envisions, for example, educators who are writing consultants that work with



Charles Schackett has a successful record of reforming schools.

students in all subjects, not just English. He said state and district policies that mandate time frames for subjects can inhibit learning, not encourage it.

- The grading system: Mr. Schackett says grades are an archaic and subjective way of measuring student competency. Along with letter grades, teachers and students will maintain portfolios of work that show progress.

- Community involvement: "This is their school, too," he

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Andrews: Why Did It Take 18 Years?

By Dawn House
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

English courts, as portrayed in the novel *Bleak House*, were so inept that characters died, lost interest or went mad before proceeds from an estate could be paid.

Charles Dickens based his tale on an actual 1800s case. It could have been written about modern America's process for executing condemned killers.

William Andrews spent nearly 18 years on Utah's death row for his part in the 1974 torture-murders in an Ogden stereo shop. He was executed by lethal injection last week.

The length of Andrews' prison stay is not unique. Nationwide, of the 2,457 inmates on death rows last year, 148 were executed.

"Death penalty cases take time — a lot of time," said former Utah Supreme Court Judge D. Frank Wilkins. "Eventually you'll see a shortening of appeals, but it will be an incremental process."

Last July, the U.S. Senate passed a bill limiting prisoners to one federal appeal. But if the bill becomes law, it wouldn't affect state courts. Utah lawmakers have made no similar proposals.

While offering few alternatives, Utah criminal justice officials said the lengthy delay between imposition of the sentence

Delays in Case Were 'Perversion of the System'

By Dawn House
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

A third of all Utahns weren't even born when William Andrews was sentenced to death.

Last week, after 18 years of legal maneuvering, that sentence was carried out, leaving many wondering why the case remained unresolved for so long.

"That case in particular, is a perversion of the system," sentencing Judge John F. Wahlquist fumed in 1986.

Andrews, who entered prison as a teen-ager and grew to middle-age before his death, was the last player still in-

volved in the case of the 1974 Ogden Hi Fi Shop murders.

Pierre Dale Selby, the admitted triggerman, was executed five years ago. Lookout man Keith Leon Roberts has long since been paroled. Mr. Wahlquist is retired. Prosecutor Robert Newey is now a judge and Andrews' original lawyer, John Caine, no longer represented him.

"A series of unforeseen circumstances and court rulings delayed the case," said Mr. Caine. "But never in my wildest dreams did I think it would

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and its resolution damages the court system.

"When cases drag on for so long, people lose faith in the justice system," said a judge who asked not to be identified. "Length of appeals depends on the imagination and creativity of the defense counsel. An issue you think up can be appealed, reconstituted and appealed again."

But Utah Supreme Court Justice Christine Durham, while acknowledging the "terrible cost"

of drawn-out appeals, said a "more terrible possibility" is an execution "without fundamental fairness and due process."

With the execution of William Andrews, Utah's death row now is home to 11 men, all of whom will wait years for their cases to be resolved. Only one — Ron Lafferty — has seen his appeal reach the federal court system, which is supposedly the final level of ap-

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Tim Kelly/The Salt Lake Tribune

PACKING THE STREETS IN PARK CITY

Thousands braved the summer heat Saturday to fill Park City's Main Street for that city's 23rd annual Art Festival. Another day of hot weather is forecast today, with the chance for afternoon or evening thunderstorms (see weather, B-2). The Park City festival — with music at the Kimball Art Center, vendors, wandering entertainers, food and other amusements — continues today, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is \$3.

Great Salt Lake Is Now Officially a Place for the Birds

By Tom Wharton
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

FARMINGTON BAY — Three young children played on the rocks at Goose Egg Island overlooking Farmington Bay Saturday morning.

Nearby, dignitaries from around the world gathered to dedicate the Great Salt Lake as a part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.

Oblivious to the speeches, the children pointed their binoculars to the southwest, where they looked out at thousands of gulls, phalaropes, ibis, avocets and stilts resting on the salty lake.

The presence of families at the ceremony was appropriate, as speaker after speaker talked about how the birds of the Great Salt Lake have brought families, people and countries closer to-

gether.

As one of the five men who once managed Farmington Bay, Division of Wildlife Resources' director Tim Provan remembered raising his children at the refuge headquarters, which was destroyed by the rising waters of the Great Salt Lake in the 1980s.

Rep. Jim Hansen, R-Utah, talked of teaching his children to identify birds when living in nearby Farmington.

Adding to the family atmosphere, Pablo Canevari, director of South American operations for the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, talked about Mar Chiquita, a salt lake in southern Argentina that is a sister site to the Great Salt Lake.

That's where 500,000 of the Wilson's phalaropes, which spend much of the summer feasting on

Great Salt Lake brine shrimp and flies, live from October until February.

These birds fly 60 hours and 3,000 miles — almost nonstop — from the Great Salt Lake to Argentina.

"The lakes look similar, but the Argentina lake has no mountains," said Mr. Canevari. "It's a flat lake and, in a recent wet period, it has been rising. It flooded half a town. It's a little smaller in size than here, but still huge."

The Great Salt Lake — which hosts between 2 million and 5 million shorebirds annually — became the 17th in a family of special shorebird reserves.

In addition to nine sites in the United States, other locations in Canada, Suriname, Brazil, Peru

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Barry Kough/The Salt Lake Tribune

These black-necked stilts blend into their surroundings at Farmington Bay on the Great Salt Lake. The lake was declared part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network on Saturday.

UTAH QUOTES

"I said to him, 'This has been a long haul for you, hasn't it?' He said, 'Yes, I'm actually very tired. In other words, I'm more or less settled and fairly well ready to face the ultimate that apparently is before me.'"

— Kim Thompson, director of facilities for the Utah Department of Corrections, on his last conversation with William Andrews.

"They have not stuck me in a place yet that I can't break out of."

— Eve, a teen-age runaway who has lived on her own for much of the past four years by selling drugs, stealing and forging checks.

"The greatest gambler on this issue is the Mormon Church. This is a real risky kind of political gamble for the church."

— Ted Wilson, director of the Hinckley Institute at the University of Utah, on the LDS Church's strong stand against parimutuel betting.

"We have a saying in Utah that the Indians didn't dine with Custer, and so we're not intending to go out and make a lot of friends. We're going out to win the gold medal."

— John Stockton, a member of the U.S. Olympic basketball team.

"We have worked hard to get women candidates, and there have been a number of women considered."

— Wm. Rolfe Kerr, commissioner of higher education, on the fact that there have been more than 120 university and college presidents in Utah, but not one of them a woman.

"He loved the salsa and chips and ate steak fajitas with a bottle of Corona Lite. He refused dessert."

— Ed Valencia, general manager of the Cafe Pierpont in Salt Lake City, on President Bush's dinner selection during his recent stay.